In the Claims:

1.   A method of selling a quantity of electric energy between at least two participants, said method comprising the steps of:

     (a)   connecting a first participant to a database display;

     (b)   connecting a second participant to the database display; and

     (c)   displaying a price for the quantity of electrical energy.

2.   (Once Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein step of [displayin] displaying the price further comprises calculating a least cost path for the delivery of the quantity of electric energy from the first participant to the second participant.

3.   The method of Claim 1 wherein step (c) further comprises:

     (a)   displaying a seller's market; and

     (b)   displaying a buyer's market.

4.   The method of Claim 1 wherein step (c) further comprises:

     (a)   recording a transmission limit between said first and second participant;

     (b)   verifying that the quantity of electrical energy is less than said transmission limit.

5.   The method of Claim 1 further comprises classifying the quantity of electrical energy as interruptible or noninterruptible.

6. The method of Claim 1 further comprises:

(d) consummating a transaction between the participants for the quantity of electrical energy.

7. The method of Claim 6 further comprises:

(e) curtailing the transaction between the participants.

8. (Once Amended) The method of Claim [1] 2 wherein the step of displaying the least cost path comprises:

(a) determining each path for transmitting the electrical energy from the first participant to the second participant; and

(b) adding any wheeling charges associated with said paths.

9. The method of Claim 1 further comprises maintaining a participant's identity anonymous.

10. The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of displaying the cost of the electric energy further comprises filtering any offers outside of a predetermined range of price.

11. The method of Claim 1 further comprises displaying a reliability indicator associated with any offer to sell electric energy.

12. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of displaying further comprises:

(a)   establishing a database of current hour offers;

(b)   establishing a database of next hour offers[;].

13.   The method of Claim 12 further comprises displaying the next hour offers during the current hour.

14.   The method of Claim 13 further comprises stopping the consummation of next hour transactions at a predetermined time during the current hour.

15. (Once Amended) An apparatus for the trading of electrical energy between a first and a second utility comprising:

(a)   means for storing at least one offer for the purchase of electrical energy

(b)   means for displaying said at least one offer;

[©] (c) means for allowing one of said participant's to accept said offer[;].

Please add new claims:

16. (New) A method of selling a quantity of electric energy between at least two participants, said method comprising the steps of:

(a)   connecting a first participant to a database display;

(b)   connecting a second participant to the database display;

(c)   displaying a price for the quantity of electrical energy;

(d)   consummating a transaction between the participants for the quantity of electrical energy; and

(e)   curtailing the transaction between the participants.

17. (New) A method of selling a quantity of electric energy between at least two participants, said method comprising the steps of:

    (a)   connecting a first participant to a database display;

    (b)   connecting a second participant to the database display;

    (c)   displaying a price for the quantity of electrical energy; and

    (d)   displaying a reliability indicator associated with any offer to sell electric energy.

18. (New) A method of selling a quantity of electric energy between at least two participants, said method comprising the steps of:

    (a)   connecting a first participant to a database display;

    (b)   connecting a second participant to the database display; and

    (c)   displaying a price for the quantity of electrical energy for next hour offers;

    (d)   displaying the next hour offers during the current hour; and

    (e)   stopping the consummation of next hour transactions at a predetermined time

during the current hour.